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**Testimony on Assembly Joint Resolution 26
Assembly Committee on Judiciary and Ethics
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I support AJR 26. As a Representative serving my second two-year term in the Wisconsin State Assembly, I understand the reasoning behind two-year term limits, but I believe that the current term limits impede rather than promote accountability.

Initially, a two-year term is far too short for a newly elected Representative to become familiar with the workings of the Legislature. The biennial budget dominates the first year, and much of the budget work takes place before one actually assumes office. In addition, two-year terms create an environment of constant campaigning. The cost of continuous campaigning is excessive and can lead to distortions in the legislative process.

Accordingly, extending the length of terms would not only be useful in controlling campaign spending, it would act to expand periods for public input, provide lawmakers with more time to deliberate in the Legislature, and in doing so, it would enable lawmakers to represent their constituencies more effectively.

I thank you for your time and consideration.